Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2012 COWCOD Conservation Areas



Ocean waters between 34°27' N. latitude (Point Conception) and the U.S.-Mexico Border,
Area 1 is located south of the northern Channel Islands. Area 2 is located west of San Diego.
See Section 27.50 for exact location coordinates. In these areas, only the groundfish listed within
this table may be taken or possessed (Exception at end of table)

Note: Shaded areas include regulations that have changed for 2012. Regulations in this table may change during the year. Before engaging in ocean sportfishing for groundfish and associated species, please review

one of the resources listed in Footnote 2 to receive the most up-to-date regulations.

Species	Time Period		Depth Limit ^{2, 3, 4}		Daily Bag Limit ^{2,}	4	Min. Size Limit ^{2, 3, 5, 6}
Nearshore ¹	Boat-based		May only be taken		10 fish in combina		See individual species
Rockfishes	Open: Mar 1		possessed in water		per person EXCE I	PT:	and groups below:
ONLY, as defined	Closed: Jan	1–Feb 28	shallower than 120) ft	_		
in subsection			(20 fm) deep		Cabezon: 3 fish pe	er	Cabezon: 15" total
1.91(a)(1), and	Divers, Shor	<u>e-based</u>	SEE EXCEPTION	AT	person		length
Cabezon and	Anglers ² :		END OF TABLE				
Greenlings as	Open year-r	ound					Kelp and/or rock
defined in							greenlings: 12" total
Sections 28.28							length
and 28.29							
Lingcod	·				2 fish per person		22" total length
(Section 28.27)							
Ocean Whitefish	0 1 5 1 6 1				10 fish per person		No size limit
(Section 28.58)	Same as	Rockfishes, Cabezo	on,			110 0120 1111111	
California	and Greenlings above				E figh par parago		10" total langth
Sheephead					5 fish per person		12" total length
(Section 28.26)							
California			Same as Nearsh	oro	5 fish per person		10" total length
Scorpionfish			Rockfishes,		3 listi per persori		TO total length
(Section 28.54)	OPEN year-round		Cabezon, and Greenlings above				
(0600011 20.04)							
Pacific Sanddabs			Greenings abo	ve	Pacific sanddab: N	la.	No size limit
	d "Other				limit		INO SIZE IIIIIII
Flatfish" ⁴ (Section							
28.48)	OPEN year-round ⁴ No dept				All "Other Flatfish" ⁴ : 10		
20.40)			No depth limit⁴		fish of each species, limit 20 fish total in combination, per		
					Section 27.60		
THE COULNING	L SDECIES I	ISTED BELO	NV MAY NOT BE T	V K E V		CON	ISEDVATION ADEAS:
THE GROUNDFISH SPECIES LISTED BELCE Bocaccio, Canary, Cowcod, Shelf and S							er Federal Groundfish
			•		•		tion 28.49)
Rockfishes (Section 28.55)		1.91(a)(3) and 1.91(a)(4)		(000	1011 20.00)	(000	1011 20.70)
	1 20.00)	1.51(a)(5) ai	πα 1.51(α)(¬)				
FISHING IS	CLOSED year	ar-round, at a	II depths NO R	ETEN	ITION at any time (zero f	ish per person)

- 1. "Nearshore rockfish" as described in subsection 1.91(a)(1) means black rockfish, black-and-yellow rockfish, blue rockfish, brown rockfish, calico rockfish, China rockfish, copper rockfish, gopher rockfish, grass rockfish, kelp rockfish, olive rockfish, quillback rockfish, and treefish.
- 2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at **www.dfg.ca.gov/marine**, send an e-mail to **AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov**, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
- 3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from season and depth restrictions affecting the RCG complex and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). However, when spear fishing during a boat-based closure, only spear fishing gear is allowed aboard any vessel or watercraft. Also, when angling from shore during a boat-based closure, no vessel or watercraft may

be used to assist in taking or possessing species included in this table. The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:

- Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
- Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
- Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
- 4. In closed areas or during closed periods, Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, and sand sole (defined as "Other Flatfish" in subsection 1.91(a)(10)) may be taken.
- 5. See regulations for information on gear restrictions (Sections 28.65, 28.70, 28.75, 28.90, 28.91, and 28.95) and fillet lengths (Section 27.65).
- 6. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A measurement method illustration is available in this booklet.

EXCEPTION: During the open season, groundfish may be possessed in closed areas and in water depths closed to fishing only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water. See subsection 27.20(b).